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SUE W. KELLY

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September 22, 2000

Chairman Richard A. Meserve
 Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Meserve:

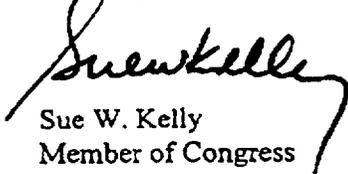
First, I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with me in my office last week. I appreciated having the opportunity to discuss some important matters regarding the Indian Point 2 nuclear power plant.

I would also like to seek further clarification from you with regard to the agency's policy on Requests for Additional Information (RAI) when processing license amendments. While I understand your comments in our meeting about the need for timely and efficient operating procedures when considering such amendments, I remain very concerned about the language in the NRC's Guide for Processing License Amendments which discourages staff from issuing RAI's (*NRR Office Letter No. 803, "License Amendment Review Procedures," Section 4.3*), and also by the possibility that high-ranking staff with Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) have explicitly discouraged additional RAI's in staff meetings.

Given the serious problems which have come to light in the aftermath of the February accident at Indian Point 2, I strongly recommend that you thoroughly review this issue and reform current policies, such as the one referenced above, which clearly undermine your agency's responsibility to maintain safely operating nuclear power plants.

Again, thanks for coming in to speak with me last week. I hope to hear from you soon on this serious issue.

Sincerely,


 Sue W. Kelly
 Member of Congress

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